

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION

Democratic Convention Ratified His Removal.

BITTER SAID TO HAVE DECLINED.

The Williamsport Man Was Nominated For Auditor General—Brown Named For Treasurer—Bryan and Free Silver Endorsed—A Fight on the Stage.

READING, Sept. 1.—It is stated that Mr. Ritter, the nominee for auditor general, has been nominated without his consent and declined to run. The report came from authoritative sources, but could not be verified.

READING, Pa., Sept. 1.—The Democratic state convention nominated Walter E. Ritter of Lycoming county, for auditor general, and M. E. Brown of Blaineville, for state treasurer. The matter of the selection of candidates was entirely overshadowed by the fight to force the retirement of William F. Harry from the national committee.

The opponents of Mr. Harry succeeded in pushing through, by a vote of 290 to 134, a resolution endorsing James M. Guffey for his position. Mr. Harry's friends contended that the state convention has no power to declare his seat in the national committee vacant and that he will not surrender without a fight.

The first session of the convention ended with a disgraceful row, during which some delegates who did not like the way things were going climbed upon the stage and exchanged blows. A large detachment of policemen were on hand when the convention reconvened, and the speaker, Mr. Guffey, called the convention to order he announced the temporary organization as agreed upon by the executive committee.

Mr. Ermentrout, temporary chairman, received a round of applause when he received the gavel from Mr. Guffey.

Mr. Ermentrout, after dwelling upon the significance of the convention, said in part:

This is not a convention of men who are about to become Democrats, but of men who are Democrats already. Those who would part with the commission of the party should be such, and only so. It would be an outrage on the face of nature, were we to allow the banner of our party to be stained by the hands of those who are not Democrats.

Had not the men for such as they the country would have been spared the spectacle of Mark Hanna in command of our legislature. There would have been no Republican congress—no justly despised Democratic party—no wrangling of an eye put into the pockets of a monstrous trust \$300,000 and made the nation tributary to it in the future.

Instead of Republicanism, Democracy would be the fountain of honor and power, and the people would be ruled by William J. Bryan, the people's choice. The last campaign proved that the people's party does not need such leaders as the party president, the state treasurer, the state auditor, or others in your own state, who either voted against you or did not raise their voices for you when you were battling bravely for the good old cause.

It is not for me to say to this convention what should be the policy of the party. It is for you to decide. But upon whatever policy this convention may decide, I want you to take any action you may take, or any declaration you may make, that will directly or indirectly in the least on the candidates of the Chicago convention or on the men who favor the Chicago platform, party demoralization and will not meet with the approval of the Democratic party.

A wild scene of enthusiasm followed Mr. Ermentrout's mention of the names of William J. Bryan, Delegates and speakers stood on their chairs and waved hats and handkerchiefs as they cheered the name of their leader.

The roll call was begun. It was long and tedious, owing to the number of substitutions. When the call was concluded, John T. Lananahan of Wilkes-Barre claimed the right to speak and was allowed to do so. He was not regularly elected and was not entitled to seats. Chairman Ermentrout refused to recognize Lananahan, and the convention adjourned for an hour.

John T. Murphy of Philadelphia, a secretary, grabbed the gavel and attempted to attempt to recover the gavel and a free fight ensued on the stage. The police were called in to quell the riot. Murphy was finally ejected from the stage and the bell-ringers ordered to take their places. Nobody was hurt, but much blood was expended. The convention then took a recess for an hour.

When the convention reassembled the form of policemen in the hall had been reinforced, and there were other evidences of preparations to prevent a repetition of the riot. The session brought the morning session to a close.

Chairman Ermentrout announced that the following delegates and speakers in the Philadelphia, would be excluded from the stage. Chairman Lananahan of the credentials committee submitted a report stating that the following delegates and speakers were excluded from the stage: Charles P. Donnelly of Philadelphia, Franklin Sawyer, Gallinger, Herd, Pierce and Gosser, from the Fifth Allegheny district; Fentelle, Hicks and Williams, from the Sixth Luzerne district; and allowing Toeh, from the First Luzerne district.

The convention then adjourned for the night. The Philadelphia delegates and speakers who were excluded from the stage, were not allowed to take the stage. The convention then adjourned for the night.

Mr. Ermentrout, in his speech said in part: We must under the most favorable auspices. The latter class of Republicans in Pennsylvania are distinguished by the hickering and strife and the struggle for supremacy among their own leaders to the detriment of the interests of the people and mistaking of the Democratic party.

The result of the vote sustained the majority report by 290 to 134. Absent or not voting were: The Philadelphia delegates stood 41 to 23 in favor of Mr. Harry.

Nomination of candidates was the next order of business. Charles B. McKenney of Harrisburg named Mayor William K. Verbeke of Dauphin county, for auditor general, and W. H. Holloway of Williamsport named ex-Assemblyman Walter E. Ritter of Lycoming.

The vote resulted: Ritter, 284; Verbeke, 41; and the former was declared the nominee.

There is no middle ground to occupy. He who is not with us is against us. He who is not with us is against us. He who is not with us is against us.

They tell us, however, that prosperity has come; that dollar wheat means the death of the silver question. They tell us that we had dollar wheat in '91, and the Home-Steak strike in '92. They have given us a tariff bill which was justly characterized by a distinguished senator as a tariff upon the statute book in any country.

Every line of it was written in the interest of the trusts that controlled the money to make McKinley's election possible. It has been followed by strikes and lockouts, the reduction of wages, an increase in the cost of all the necessities of life.

James Kerr of Clearfield, chairman of the resolutions committee then read the platform adopted by the committee, as follows:

We, the Democrats of Pennsylvania, in convention assembled, heartily reaffirm and reiterate the principles of the Democratic party, as set forth in the platform adopted by the national convention at Chicago in 1896, and approved by 2,500,000 free and independent voters. We firmly and unalterably oppose to the single gold standard, which has been the cause of our present economic distress.

We denounce the Dingley tariff law as a measure designed and passed in answer to the demands of trusts and monopolies, every important feature of which is a tariff for the protection of trusts.

We abhor the character of the warfare waged by the government of Spain against the inhabitants of the helpless island of Cuba, in which the humane methods of civilized nations have been abandoned, and the most barbarous and unchristianlike methods of warfare against unarmed civilians and defenseless women and children have been resorted to.

We ask the honest people of this Commonwealth to examine the legislative and executive action of the present administration, and to see if they can find any evidence of honesty, integrity, or justice.

We demand the immediate withdrawal of our troops from Cuba, and the cessation of all military operations in that island.

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The committees were made up as follows: Credentials—F. P. Jans, chairman; William Eisenbrenner, David Singer, James Mooney, James J. Carroll, David H. Shours, Nicholas F. Kline, W. H. Murphy, James E. Hagan, John J. Carroll, C. I. Hiegar, Jacob Poutz, Irwin Ammon, E. J. Cox, John L. Swartz, S. M. F. Duffy, Charles G. Goshard, Arthur H. Frazier, R. G. Hoffman, D. H. R. Pautz, James W. Sallade, J. O. Ulrich, J. C. Conroy, John S. Dougherty, A. W. Minch, John Harrison Seelzer, A. V. Dively, Dr. A. Kellie, J. J. Young, J. W. Healy, J. S. Lewis, Nathaniel S. Wainwright, J. T. Brey, Curtis L. Webb.

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Unjustly of the peace to justice of the supreme power of the United States are directed against labor. All the organized forces of society are against labor, and labor expects to emancipate itself, labor itself.

The time has not quite come to inaugurate the "republican" and Mr. Debs, shaking his fist vehemently, "I serve no country that we are on the eve of an election, and I will not be attended by all branches of labor. This convention will take up these same questions and will bring the public conscience and public heart are aroused. They will come upon an uprising as the world has never seen before."

"Never in my life have I been more hopeful than now. I am not gifted with great visionary powers, but I believe in the future of our country. This meeting is an inspiration. It will lead to great good. This movement has traveled over the country, and it will go ahead with a rush. When the people are ready, and that day is not far off, my friends, there will be a great uprising, and the supreme courts will be abolished, congress dispersed and the sacred rights of American citizens and American freedom will be restored." (Great applause.)

Mr. Debs said he was a socialist, but would help the laboring people in the struggle to help the socialist in their cause. "I pledge loyalty to the charge of being radical, I only wish you would support us, gentlemen of the convention, and I promise you we will support the attempt to amend the constitution, and we will support the judges who issue them."

"I hope in the march of common intelligence we will be able to settle these questions without appealing to the sword or bullet."

Mr. Debs said the time would come to invite the people.

"I shrink from that bloodshed," and Mr. Debs said that if this is necessary to preserve liberty and our rights—in that event I will shed the last drop of blood that courses through my veins. (Outbreak of cheering.)

"The people are ripe for a great change. All they ask is a conference supply. Let this conference set pace. Announce to the world that it will temporarily suspend the courts, and the new preparations. Ask every man to pledge himself to be there. Come if you have to walk. No man has a right to be absent."

West Virginia, he said, had more government to the square inch than any other in the Union, and the government of the United States is the only government in the world that is not a government at all. In conclusion, Mr. Debs said that he would support the abolition of the courts, and the new preparations.

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An Unwelcome Guest.

This Hotel Proprietor Cannot be Blamed for Ejecting so Troublesome a Visitor.

After the battle of Waterloo, when the allied forces lay in and around Brussels, every conceivable sort of coin was circulating in the streets. A British soldier walked into a hotel with a British shilling, and asked the proprietor if it would go for anything. He was told that it would go for anything but a shilling.

The proprietor told him that it would go for anything but a shilling. The soldier said that he would go for anything but a shilling. The proprietor said that it would go for anything but a shilling.

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